## Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OEXC, PL

SUBJECT: JOURNALIST PARTY PROPOSED FOR BARCIKOWSKI VISIT

REF: WARSAW 6108

1. POLISH PLAN TO SEND SIX JOURNALISTS TO COVER BARCIKOWSKI VISIT HAS THROWN SERIOUS WRENCH INTO COMPLICATED PROGRAM PLANNING FOR VISIT, PARTICULARLY OUTSIDE WASHINGTON, AND THREATENS TO JEOPARDIZE SUCCESS OF VISIT ITSELF. IN ADDITION TO PROBLEMS POSED BY INTRICATE LOGISTICS ARRANGE-MENTS AND EXTREMELY TIGHT TIMING, PRESENCE OF THREE TO SIX ADDITIONAL MEMBERS IN THE BARCIKOWSKI ENTOURAGE WOULD PRESENT HOSTS AT EACH STAGE ALONG THE ROUTE WITH ACKWARD PROBLEM OF WHAT TO DO WITH EXTRA UNINVITED GUESTS AND WE DO NOT FEEL THAT WE CAN PROPERLY INTERCEDE AT THIS LATE DATE. FURTHERMORE, GROUND AND AIR TRANSPORTATION, INCLUDING MOLINE TO CHAMPAIGN LEG ON JOHN DEERE AIRCRAFT, WHICH IS BEING PROVIDED BY HOSTS. HAS BEEN STRETCHED TO CAPACITY FOR MEMBERS OF PARTY ALREADY PROGRAMMED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND THERE IS NO ADDITIONAL SPACE. ABOVE PROBLEMS COMPLI-

CATED BY OTHER FACTORS SUCH AS ABSENCE OF TIMELY COMMERCIAL AIR CONNECTION BETWEEN MOLINE AND CHAMPAIGN.

2. DEPARTMENT AND USIA UNDERSTAND POLISH DESIRE TO HAVE PRESS COVERAGE OF VISIT AND WE WOULD ORDINARILY WELCOME

OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE POLISH JOURNALISTS VISIT U.S. HOWEVER, GIVEN PROBLEMS OUTLINED PARAGRAPH 1, EMBASSY SHOULD STRONGLY URGE POLES TO DROP IDEA OF JOURNALIST PARTY TO COVER MINISTER'S TRIP. POLISH EMBASSY HAS INFORMED US THAT MESSAGE ON JOURNALIST CONTINGENT RECEIVED THERE AS WELL. EMBASSY HAS RESPONDED WITH MESSAGE WHICH STRONGLY OPPOSES ADDITION OF ANY JOURNALISTS AT THIS LATE DATE, CITING PROBLEMS MENTIONED HEREIN.

- 3. IF, AND ONLY IF, POLES INSIST THAT SOME POLISH
  JOURNALISTS MUST COVER VISIT, WE SUGGEST THAT YOU URGE
  AS A COMPROMISE THAT POLES FOLLOW US PRACTICE OF
  APPOINTING SINGLE POOL CORRESPONDENT TO COVER EVENT ON
  BEHALF OF ALL INTERESTED NEWS MEDIA. SEPARATE POOL
  CORRESPONDENT COULD COVER ZYDRON'S SEPARATE PROGRAM. IN
  EVENT POLES ACCEPT THIS SUGGESTION, DEPARTMENT WILL
  ATTEMPT TO MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS ONLY. THE REST WILL
  BE UP TO THEM. USIA WILL OFFER FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE
  AS POSSIBLE.
- 4. ADVISE POLISH DECISION ON JOURNALISTS ASAP. SISCO

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